

**Six Month
Progress Report****Special points of
interest:**

- Commission Seeks Volunteers!
- Commission Data Driven Process is designed to assist in redesigning city's future.
- Six month highlights show progress toward Commission work.
- Commission to seek voter approval within 2 years.

Inside this issue:

Commissioner Profiles	2
Commission Timetable	7
Citizen Challenge	10
An Argument for Inspector General	9
Charter History	6
Commission Structure and Operations	6
The purpose of the City Charter	6

Charter Commission Committed to Data Driven Process

Meeting of the DCRC on Corporation Counsel, June 8, 2010

The Commission is committed to a data-driven process that will enable it and Detroit's citizens to examine the current structure of city government and the impact of key charter revisions. For example, in the Commission's discussion on the appointment and control of Corporation Counsel, we focused on the recent changes in professional ethics and the practical side of running a law practice pitted between potentially different interests. Marcia L. Proctor, Proctor Legal Consulting, former Corporation Counsels Elliott Hall, of

Dykema Gossett and Donald Pailen each provided expert insight into the constraints associated with the Office of Corporation Counsel. Similarly, in the discussion of Council-by-districts, we concerned ourselves with the political, social and economic requirements that must be addressed before implementing the new district structure.

The Commission empanelled a group of subject experts to discuss their perspectives and experiences with re-

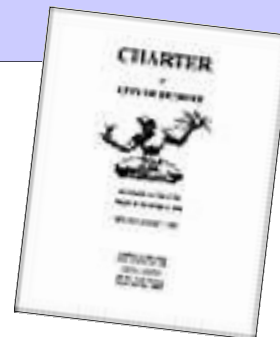
aligning services to accommodate the new district structure. How will the extra costs of district offices for Council be financed? Should Council become a part-time legislative function? How will city departments such as transportation, public works and recreation respond to the district-based structure?

To address these complicated questions, the Commission invited Mildred Madison from the Detroit League of Women Voters and former Councilmember in the city of Cleveland; David Fasenfest, Professor of Sociology, Wayne State University; and Sheila Cockrel, former Detroit City Councilmember. Together, they discussed the issues, implications and alternative methods to reorganize the city in the context of the Charter. Their observations and recommendations proved to be key points as the Charter Revision Commission begins the process of formally rewriting the Charter document.

What is a Charter?

With the growth of American cities and populations late in the 18th century, it became necessary for state governments to organize local governments into cohesive political units that would allow for stable local governance and democratic distribution of resources. Michigan responded to this challenge at the state level by legislating the type, form and conduct of local governments in the form of city charters. Charters are, in

effect, local government's articles of incorporation and constitution, combined, and they document, in detail, the governance structure of the political unit, its physical boundaries, governmental powers and the limitations on those powers, among other things. Charters set forth the broad framework for local government and are not intended to regulate the day-to-day operation



or regulation of local governments, which are left to city ordinances, executive organization plans, administrative codes and city planning documents. The only limitations placed on charter provisions are those imposed by state or federal law, and judicial decisions.

Freman Hendrix, Commission Chair

For three decades, Freman Hendrix has dedicated himself to improving the quality of life for the people and families of Detroit and Southeast Michigan. Since completing his 100-day, volunteer assignment as Co-Chair of Detroit Mayor Dave Bing's Crisis Turn-around Team, he has focused his broad range of professional skills and experiences on what is perhaps his most important role to date -- Chairman of the Detroit Charter Revision Commission, which was empanelled by the people of Detroit to review and recommend revisions to strengthen Detroit's governing document.

As Chief Government Relations and Special Projects Officer at Eastern Michigan University (EMU), Hendrix worked diligently to improve EMU's image and strengthen its overall reputation by building bi-partisan coalitions in both Washington, D.C. and Lansing, which last year resulted in \$3.5 million in research grants from Washington and \$32 million from Lansing for the university's first major state-funded academic building renovation in more than 12 years. Prior to this role at EMU, Hendrix served as Chief Operations Officer at a Detroit-based information technology staffing and solutions company that saw a 35 percent increase in sales revenue and expanded into two additional markets during his three-year tenure. As COO, Hendrix jointly oversaw the operations of the company's 10 U.S. branches and was responsible for key strategic business development initiatives, as well as establishing a company-wide professional development program.

As Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor to former Detroit Mayor Dennis W. Archer's two terms in office, Hendrix played a key role in Detroit's resurgence, shaping policy and planning for 43 de-

partments and 17,000 employees who provide essential services to nearly one million Detroit residents. His skillful management also helped lead the city to its first balanced budget in several years, and an unprecedented and continuous upgrading of Detroit's national bond rating.

Prior to joining the Archer administration, Hendrix held important posts in Wayne County government. As director of Community Development, Hendrix was soon appointed Assistant County Executive for Legislative Affairs, where he was responsible for advancing Wayne County's interests at state and federal levels.

Having heard the call to public service nearly 30 years ago, Hendrix began his employment in government in an entry level position in the city of Detroit's Finance Department. Through extensive training and leadership development, Hendrix achieved great success, ascending to the top of his field. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Hendrix earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Eastern Michigan University.

A long-time community activist who co-founded the Rose-dale-Grandmont Little League Baseball Program for 700 boys and girls, Hendrix is a life-member of the NAACP and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He and his wife, Elaine, have two adult children and reside in Detroit's North Rosedale Park neighborhood.



Jenice Mitchell Ford, Vice Chair

Jenice Mitchell Ford is a native Detroiter and a graduate of Martin Luther King, Jr. High School. She earned an English literature degree from Georgetown University in 1996 where she served as president of the Gospel Choir and the Black Student Association. She earned a Juris Doctor degree from Northwestern University School of Law in 1999 where she served as an articles editor for the Northwestern Law Review and vice chair of the Christian Legal Fellowship.

Currently Senior Counsel in the Detroit offices of Foley & Lardner, LLP, one of the country's largest law firms, Mitchell Ford specializes in commercial litigation. She is admitted to practice law in Michigan, Illinois, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. Prior to joining Foley, Ms. Ford was judicial clerk to the Honorable Anna Diggs Taylor, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Mitchell Ford is civic minded and community oriented. A member of the Detroit Regional Chamber's Leadership Detroit Class XXIV, she volunteers as a member of the Board of Directors



of the Sphinx Organization, which is dedicated to the training and exposure of Black and Latino classical musicians. She is former vice chair of the City of Detroit Board of Ethics. She was awarded the Wolverine Bar Association's Margrette A. Taylor Distinguished Young Lawyer Award, and from 2001-2006 coordinated the Wolverine Bar's Minority Bar Passage Program, helping prepare nearly 100 law students to pass the Michigan bar examination.

Mitchell Ford was a steering committee member for Michigan Lawyers for Obama, coordinating voter protection efforts during the historic 2008 election. She has served on transition teams for elected officials and has worked on presidential, gubernatorial and mayoral elections.

A lifelong member and past trustee of Corinthian Baptist Church of Hamtramck, Mitchell Ford is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and a trustee of the Minerva Education and Development Foundation, a philanthropic arm of the Detroit Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc.

She lives and works in the City of Detroit with her husband, Harry J. Ford, III and has a vested interest in the future of the city.

Commissioner Teola Hunter

Teola P. Hunter is a native Detroit, a mother, grandmother, business woman and highly respected political leader in Wayne County. She attended Detroit Public Schools; received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Detroit, and a Masters degree in Education from Wayne State University. Ms. Hunter taught in the Detroit Public School System for 14 years. In 1989, she was elected by her colleagues in the legislature to the leadership position of Speaker Pro Tempore. She was the first female to hold this position in Michigan, and was re-elected to this role until she resigned from the House of Representatives in January, 1992. Following her resignation from the State House, Ms. Hunter was appointed to the position of Deputy Director for Health and Community Services by Wayne County Executive, Edward H. McNamara, responsible for overseeing Mental Health Services, the Patient Care Management System, Youth Programs, Co-op Extension, and the Child Care Fund.



In 1992, Ms. Hunter was elected to the Office of Wayne County Clerk. She was the first female to hold this position in Wayne County, and she was re-elected in 1996. In 1997, she became the first African American to run as the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant Governor for the State of Michigan. In June, 2001, Ms. Hunter was appointed to the position of Interim Executive Director of the Coleman A. Young Foundation (CAYF), responsible for day-to-day leadership and governance of the CAYF office and operation, including ensuring compliance with governing agencies and implementing policy as directed by the Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Kenneth Harris

Kenneth L. Harris is known for his maverick-style in his approach to altering societal and economic challenges within his community. An avid reader and socially-conscious individual, Kenneth always has been passionate about helping African-Americans and other minorities realize their dreams, most importantly through entrepreneurship and economic empowerment. In efforts to bridge the gap between minority-owned businesses throughout the region, he founded the International Detroit Black Expo, Incorporated (IDBE) in 2004.

Kenneth was the first African-American Chief of Staff and Executive Assistant to the Mayor of Southfield and the first African-American Director of Greek Affairs at Wayne State University. Additionally, he is the first African-American Counseling Psychologist for St. John Community Health and is the first African-American Vice President of Business Development for the Michigan Minority Supplier Diversity Council, Inc. Harris also is the Founder of the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce to be launched later in 2010.

Kenneth serves on the Board of Directors for the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Michigan Center for Fair Housing, the United Negro College Fund, the First Independence Bank Community Devel-



Teola P. Hunter has had the opportunity to tour several countries. In 1982, she visited the Soviet Union as a concerned citizen of peace. In 1985, she attended the Decade of Women's Conference in Nairobi, Kenya and the Organization of Black Elected Legislators (NOBEL) Women's Conference in Bermuda. In January, 1990, Ms. Hunter was one of several legislators invited to visit Israel by the Jewish Community Council to attain a better perspective on Mid-East developments.

Teola Hunter's civic, political, social, religious, and business involvements are extensive and diverse. Ms. Hunter is a faithful member of Mayflower Congregation United Church of Christ and a dedicated member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Currently, she serves as a board member and general member to several business, civic and professional organizations. Most importantly, she continues to focus on higher education. She was a member of the Commission on the future of the University of Detroit Mercy, concentrating on the College of Business Administration Task Force. She devotes time as a charter member of the Advisory Board of Michigan State University's Michigan Political Leadership Program (MPLP). This program is a non-partisan political project that identifies men and women of diverse backgrounds who have leadership potential and brings them together in an educational program designed to provide a solid foundation in practical politics, public policy analysis, personal leadership development and governance. Ms. Hunter describes herself as a public servant. She continues to demonstrate this commitment by serving on various not-for-profit boards of directors, including Don Bosco Hall, City Connect Detroit, College Board Kids Learning Center, Lewis College of Business, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (Women's Committee), and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Board of Directors.

opment Corporation, and the NAACP – Detroit Branch, Economic Empowerment Committee Chairperson. He is an active life member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Prince Hall Masonry, Hartford Memorial Baptist Church, Mayor Dave Bing's Campaign Economic Task Force and the Oakland University School of Business Board of Visitors.

Over the past few years, Kenneth L. Harris received the U.S. Small Business (SBA) 2007 Minority Business Advocate of the Year award; was inducted into *Crain's Detroit Business* Class of 2007 "40 under 40," and *Who's Who in Black Detroit*. Kenneth was most recently honored by the Michigan Women's Marketplace and CEED as the 2008 Entrepreneur of the Year. Kenneth also received the 2008 Excellence Award for Economic Empowerment by 100 Black Men of Greater Detroit, Inc. Kenneth accepted the 2009 CBS-WWJ 950 Emerging Leaders Under 40 Award during Black History Month and the 2010 Alpha Kappa Alpha Exemplary Community Servant Award.

Kenneth graduated with a BA in Psychology and a MA in Counseling Psychology, both from Clark University in Atlanta, Georgia. Currently an Educational Specialist degree candidate at Wayne State University in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, Kenneth also received a Doctorate of Humane Letters from Detroit's Lewis College of Business in 2008.

Born and raised in the city of Detroit, Commissioner Harris will work to help Detroit rebuild its economic future and governing policies.

Commissioner Kenneth Coleman



Ken Coleman is a communications and media consultant. His past employment experiences include serving as a legislative assistant to former Detroit City Councilwoman, Brenda M. Scott as well as State Senators Irma Clark-Coleman and

Buzz Thomas. He also has worked as the Detroit Public Schools' director of governmental relations and as a reporter and senior editor at the Michigan Chronicle and Michigan FrontPage news-

papers.

A Detroit native, Coleman has served as a volunteer mentor and executive board member with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit since 2006. He chairs a special task force that is dedicated to increasing the number of Black men who mentor African-American boys.

Coleman is completing a bachelor's degree in communications from Wayne State University. He is married to Kim Trent, and they have a two-year old son, Jackson.

Commissioner Rose Mary C. Robinson



A 1972 graduate of Wayne State University Law School, Rose Mary Robinson has practiced criminal law in Detroit on trial and appellate levels for more than 36 years, and was the attorney for the Board of Tenant Affairs for Detroit

Public Housing. She has been active in electoral politics since 1966, when she was elected precinct delegate, representing the Jeffries Projects. In 1968, she was elected delegate to the Democratic National Convention. In 1970, she was one of the first

two women elected to the Wayne County Commission, and was re-elected to six terms in that office. She served as a member of the commission's Labor Committee, negotiating labor contracts and participating in grievance proceedings. During her twelve years as a county commissioner, Ms. Robinson served as chair of Juvenile Affairs for Wayne County and as a member of the county Anti-Crime Council. She developed programs to fight juvenile delinquency and worked to establish the Commission on Aging to help seniors in the areas of housing, health, nutrition and transportation.

Attorney Robinson has six children, and has lived in Detroit longer than 46 years.

Commissioner John Johnson

Attorney John E. Johnson, Jr. is engaged in the private, general practice of law in Detroit. He also is a political and management consultant.

A native of Buffalo, New York, Attorney Johnson received an undergraduate degree in political science and journalism from Howard University (Washington, D.C.) in 1974, and his juris doctorate from Valparaiso University School of Law (Indiana) in 1978.

Attorney Johnson most recently served as corporation counsel and director of the Law Department for the city of Detroit, representing both the executive and legislative branches of government in all city of Detroit matters. Prior to that, he spent most of his legal career representing the indigent and middle classes. Previous employers include the Legal Aid and Defender Association (LADA), where he served until December, 2005 as its deputy executive director; Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services (deputy director); National Consumer Law Center (staff attorney); UAW Legal Services Plans (managing attorney), and the Detroit Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), where he served



as executive director from 1997 to 1999.

Active in both civic and community affairs, Attorney Johnson is the past chairman of the Wayne County Economic Development Corporation and Wayne County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority; past president of the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights and the Wolverine Bar Association (one of Michigan's largest African American bar associations); and former member of the Detroit Election Commission and State Bar of Michigan Character and Fitness Committee.

Attorney Johnson currently serves as general counsel for the Detroit Branch NAACP, and on the executive boards of the Fannie Lou Hamer Political Action Committee (Detroit, MI) and the Michigan Democratic Party's 14th Congressional District.

He is a member of Fellowship Chapel United Church of Christ in Detroit, where he serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Attorney Johnson is married to state of Michigan 36th District Court Judge Izetta F. Bright. They have two daughters.

Commissioner Cara Blount



A lifelong resident of Detroit, Cara Blount joined the Detroit Police Department in 1977 and began her 30-year career in the department on patrol in the Thirteenth (Woodward) Precinct. She was promoted to sergeant in 1986. She then worked at the Eighth (Grand River) Precinct, Mini Station Section, the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy and the Personnel Bureau. In 1994, she was

promoted to the rank of lieutenant and assigned to the Fifth (Jefferson) Precinct.

In 1995, she became commanding officer of the Tactical Operations Section (Tac Ops). During her four years at Tac Ops, she planned, organized and coordinated logistics for the Grand Prix, Thunderfest Boat Races, Thanksgiving Day Parades and the Red Wings Victory Parades; the visits of President William Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President and Mrs. Al Gore, the Armenian Pope, Michael Jackson, and Winnie Mandela; and the funerals of former Mayor Coleman A. Young and Father William Cunningham. In July, 1998, Lieutenant Blount was appointed to the rank of inspector.

In 1999, she was appointed commander of the Twelfth (Palmer Park) Precinct, with responsibility for all patrol, investigative, community relations and personnel functions.

Commissioner Reggie Reg Davis



Reggie Reg Davis is, "Detroit's voice, Your choice." He has been "Detroit's voice" on the radio for more than 28 years. Reggie Reg started in radio at the age of 12 years old with Dr. Mary Wilks of WGPR's Teen Profile. As a broadcast professional, Commissioner Davis has worked at several radio stations including WJLB (Detroit) and WDZZ (Flint).

As a radio personality, Reggie Reg has volunteered as a organizer and motivational speaker in hundreds of Detroit Public Schools. Reggie's community volunteerism has resulted in his recognition by the Specs Howard School of Broadcasting (Honorary Degree) and by historic radio executive Verna Green for years of involvement with teenaged students in and out of school.

Commissioner Davis sees himself as a voice that can affected change and best represent the interests of people in Detroit. He spends most of his time fighting to change the culture of young people in Detroit. His non-profit group, The Cease Fire Youth Initiative, mentors young people, giving them hope and allowing them to better deal with conflicts in their day-to-day lives.

On July 21, 2002, Commander Blount was appointed deputy chief in the Western Operations Bureau, an area with a population of more than 500,000 citizens and more than 1,200 sworn and civilian employees. She remained in charge of Westside patrol operations until July, 2003, when she was appointed the Detroit Police Department's first Compliance Coordinator in charge of the Civil Rights Integrity Bureau. In that capacity, she was the liaison between the city of Detroit, the Detroit Police Department, a court-ordered monitor and the United States Department of Justice.

In January, 2004, she became commanding officer of the Central Services Bureau, with oversight over all major investigative units including Homicide, Sex Crimes, Gang Squad, Armed Robbery, Narcotics and Vice. She retired from the Detroit Police Department in March, 2005. Cara earned her B.A. in Sociology from the University of Detroit in 1974 and an M.S. degree in Criminal Justice from Wayne State University in 1999. She also was an adjunct instructor at Wayne County Community College from 1991-1996 and at Wayne State University from 2000 - 2003. She and her husband Michael, a retired Detroit Police sergeant, have four children and five grandchildren.

Volunteer Spotlight

Simone Lightfoot is a veteran policy analyst. Ms. Lightfoot has work for the State of Michigan, House of Representatives, Speaker Pro Tem, NAACP and is also a Trustee with the Ann Arbor Board of Education. Ms. Lightfoot has recently accepted a position with the National Wild Life Federation as the head of its Urban Initiative section. **Ingrid D. White** has worked on behalf of city related causes for many years including as staff to Detroit City Council Member Kenneth Vern Cockrel Sr., Detroit Empowerment Zone, and the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation. Ms. White has earned a MBA and is a marketing executive at DTE Energy. Lightfoot and White have agreed to recruit and coordinate volunteers for the Commission. **Ellen Schneider, Rachel Reed, and Luck Suchyta** are volunteers working with the Commission's General Counsel. Ellen Schneider is a second year law student at Wayne State University. Rachel Reed is entering her third year at WUS's Law School and is associate editor of the law school's Journal of Law in Society. Luke Suchyta is a May 2010 graduate of Wayne State University Law School. During his law studies, Luke served as Assistant Editor and Senior Articles Editor of the Wayne Law Review.

Credits & Etc.

This reports is published by the 2009 Detroit Charter Revision Commission. The Offices of the Charter Commission are located at 65 Cadillac Square, 32nd Floor, Cadillac Towers Building, Suite 3210. You can contact the Commission at 313-628-2517. More information is available on the Commission at the City of Detroit website at <http://www.detroitmi.gov/DepartmentsandAgencies/CityCharterCommission/tabid/2936/Default.aspx>. Special thank you to Ingrid White, Michael Hudson (photos), Jenice Mitchell Ford (photos), Cara Blount (photo), Michelle Zdrodowski, (photo) Gregory Moot and Marcel Todd, City of Detroit Planning Commission, Lamont Satchel, and Rebecca Shaw. Gregory Hicks, editor.



Charter History

Beginning in 1802, the city of Detroit was governed by a city charter that was created by the state legislature. The state legislature imposed two additional charters in 1815 and 1857. However, with demand for more local control over the operation and function of local governments, and recognition that local control could yield positive social outcomes, the Michigan Constitution was amended in 1908 to allow, for the first time, the principle of self-governance, to be adopted in the execution of local government affairs. The Michigan Constitution called for local governments to control their structure, operation and destiny and directed the legislature to implement this mandate by adopting appropriate legislation. In response, the state legislature passed the Home Rule City Act of 1909, which to this day governs the process by which local units of government in Michigan are to engage in self-governance.

After passage of the 1909 Home Rule City Act, in 1911 the citizens of Detroit voted on their first city charter. It was defeated. It was not until 1918 that Detroiters adopted their first city charter. At more than 160 pages, this comprehensive document would guide the city through over half a century of expansion, until August 13, 1969 when then mayor Jerome Cavanagh commissioned a charter study. The Charter Study Committee, chaired by Judge John D. O'Hair, was directed by the mayor to study and recommend whether a comprehensive revision of the 1918 charter was necessary. Since its creation in 1918, the charter had been amended more than 200 times. The Charter Study Committee submitted its final report to the mayor on November 14, 1969, recommending a comprehensive revision of the 1918 charter.

A Charter Revision Commission subsequently was elected by Detroiters. From 1970 to 1972 that commission prepared a revised charter that was presented to voters on November 7, 1972 and voted down by a margin of 51%-49%. A subsequent modification of the defeated charter was presented to voters at the November 6, 1973 election; it was adopted, 57% to 43%, and took effect on July 1, 1974.

The 1974 Charter required that voters be asked in 1993, and every sixteen years thereafter, whether there should be additional charter revisions. Thus, in a 1993 municipal general election, a majority of Detroiters voted for a charter revision and elected nine charter commission members. The 1993-1996 Charter Commission completed its task and presented a proposed charter to the citizens of Detroit, which was adopted on November 5, 1996 and became effective January 1, 1997.

The 1997 Charter required that voters be asked at the 2018 gubernatorial primary and at every fourth gubernatorial primary thereafter, whether the charter should be amended. However, by a 3/5 vote of the Detroit City Council, on May 5, 2009 a proposal was placed on the ballot asking Detroit voters if they favored a revision of the 1997 charter. Detroiters voted in favor of the proposal. Nomination of charter commission members was made at the August 4, 2009 regular city primary election and election of members occurred at the regular city general election held on November 3, 2009.

Structure and Operation of the Commission



Your current Charter Revision Commission has created an internal operational structure to expedite its task of revising the charter. The commission consists of nine (9) members, with a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson selected by its members. All meeting dates of the commission are published in advance and posted on the 13th floor of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center and the city's website. They are open to the public. During these meetings, members of the public may witness the Commission conduct its business and provide comments and input on the subject under review or during designated public comment periods. Members of the public who seek information are encouraged to submit in writing, at the meetings, any questions they may have about the charter or the charter revision process.

In an effort to allow for maximum public participation and engagement, commission meetings are video recorded and soon after aired on the city's government access channel (Comcast government access channel 10). In addition, the minutes, presentation materials and agendas of each meeting subsequently are published on the commission's website, <http://www.detroitmi.gov/DepartmentsandAgencies/CityCharterCommission/tabid/2936/Default.aspx>. The commission has established four operational standing committees, including the Budget Committee, Rules & Structure Committee, Personnel Committee and Housing/Location Committee. These committees are advisory in nature; recommendations from these committees are brought before the full commission for consideration and action. Standing Committee meeting schedules are published, and the meetings are open to the public.

Process for Passage of Amended Detroit City Charters

The Home Rule City Act of 1909 set forth the process to amend the charter. By state law, charter commissions are provided three years to revise the charter and obtain voter approval. If they cannot complete their task within three years, or if three proposed charter revisions are defeated at the polls during that time frame, the commission must disband. After termination of the charter revision commission, another proposal to revise the charter can be brought at any time by an initiatory petition or a 3/5 vote of city council.

Once the Charter Revision Commission has completed its task of preparing a revised charter, and possibly separate, individual charter amendments, these must be submitted to the governor for review. Traditionally, the governor will forward the proposed charter to the attorney general for review and comment. Individual amendments to be submitted separately to voters must be approved by the attorney general as to impartiality and clarity. If the governor approves the charter and any amendments as submitted, he or she will sign and return the charter and amendments, if any, to the commission. If the governor does not approve, the charter and any amendments are returned with objections noted. The commission will consider the objections of the governor and make any adjustments they deem appropriate. The proposed charter and any amendments must be published by the commission before being submitted to the electors for approval.



Charter Revision Timetable

Recognizing that passage of a revised city charter requires proper planning, a broad level of community support and input from stakeholders (religious, civic, labor, education, business, and philanthropic organizations), the Commission has created a blueprint for completing its work:

- A series of public Commission meetings, where a section-by-section review of the current charter is being conducted with the assistance of subject experts, which began in January, 2010, and will conclude in July, 2010.
- Subcommittee meetings or community workshops will be scheduled from September, 2010 through December, 2010 for detailed and methodical analysis, fact finding and information gathering regarding identified Charter revisions.
- Drafting of the proposed Charter will take place between January 11, 2011 and March 2011.
- Public review and comment on the proposed Charter will be scheduled for April, 2011.
- Submission to and consideration of the proposed Charter by the Governor and Attorney General will occur between May, 2011 and July, 2011.
- Public promotion and dissemination of the proposed Charter will take place from August, 2011 to October, 2011.
- The Charter will be placed on the November, 2011 ballot.



Tuesday, June 22, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Butzel Family Center

7737 Kercheval (Eastside)

TOPIC: Removal of Office of Elected and Appointed Officials

Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Delta Sigma Theta Detroit Foundation, Inc.

24760 West Seven Mile Road (Westside)

TOPIC: Police & Fire Commissions

Tuesday, July 27, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Mayflower Congregational UCC

7301 Curtis Ave.
(Northwest)

TOPIC: Economic Development & Planning

Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.

Kemeny Recreational Center

2260 South Fort Street
(Southwest)

TOPIC: Privatization of City Services

Charter Commission Six Month Highlights

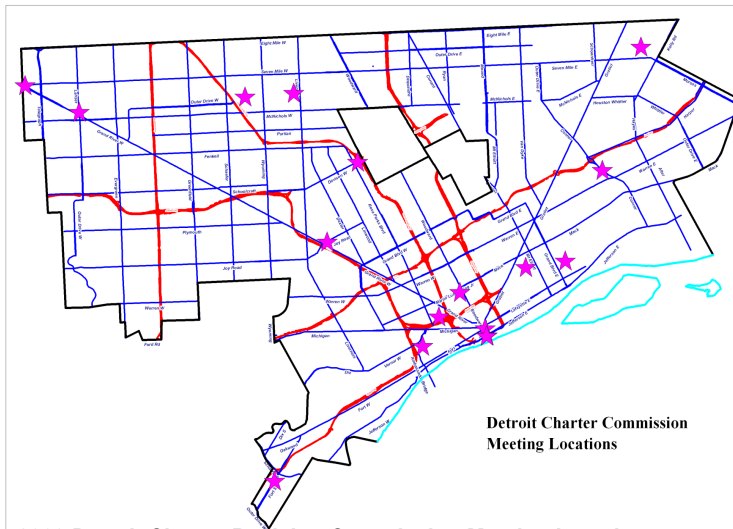
Day Long Orientation in December 2009 with Leadership



Former Mayor Dennis W. Archer

The Commission sponsored a day-long orientation where Commission members and the general public had an opportunity to learn about the charter revision process from a diversity of local subject matter experts: the Michigan Municipal League, the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, former Detroit Charter Revision commissioners and administrative staff as well as local attorneys who specialize in municipal law. Several community stakeholders representing business and labor organizations as well as local precinct delegates also were in attendance.

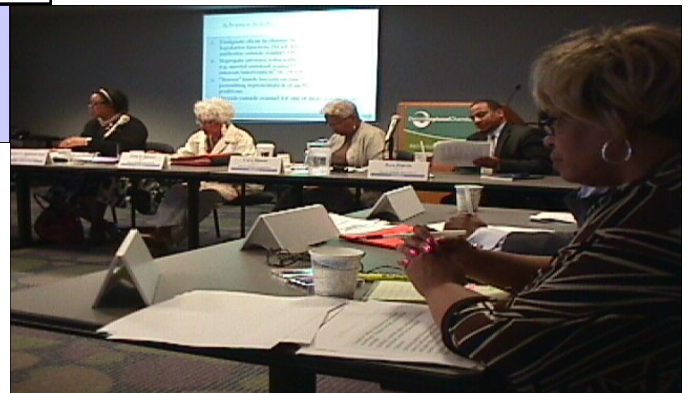
Committed to Geographically Move Around the City !



The Commission committed itself to meeting in geographically diverse neighborhood venues such as social service agencies, places of worship, and facilities that are accessible by a wide range of citizens such as Northwest Activities Center, Franklin-Wright Settlements, Kemeny Recreational Center, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, Heilmann Center, Samaritan Center, Teamsters International Headquarters, Roberto Clemente Recreation Center, Chapel Hill Community Center, the Muslim Center of Detroit, Butzel Family Center, Delta Sigma Theta Detroit Foundation Headquarters, Mayflower Congregational Church, Blight Busters Community Center, and the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Committed to a 2 - year Revision Tenure!

The Commission committed itself to a two-year revision tenure, shorter than both previous Commissions (1970-73; 1993-96), which took three years to report a proposed revised charter to voters. The Commission seeks to offer a proposed charter revision to voters during a regularly scheduled election, to avoid a costly special election.



Data Driven Fact Finding and Drafting Process



The Commission committed itself to an article-by-article, section-by-section review of the Charter during fact-finding to educate the Commission and the general public on the provisions detailed in the document—a track that was unanimously approved by the Commission and applauded by community stakeholders.



Ronald Goldstock, IPSIG

Commission Examines Older Governmental Forms and Seeks More Effective Governmental Arrangements

The Charter Commission is concerned whether the traditional checks and balances between the executive and legislative branches of city government are effective. Under the existing strong Mayor-weak Coun-

cil form of government, three monitoring agencies have been established to balance the powers of the two branches of government. These offices include the Auditor General (Chapter 2 of the current Charter), the Ombudsman (Chapter 3) and the Ethics Commission (Chapter 2, Section 2.106:2).

The Auditor General performs operational and performance audits, tracking the use of expenditures within local government. The Ombudsman responds to individual citizen complaints and searches for operational trends in local government that can improve the operations of local governments. The Ethics Commission renders advisory opinions on conflicts of interest with specific enforcement powers.

Given this mix of authority, the Commission invited a subject expert from New York, Ronald Goldstock, attorney and founder of Independent Private-Sector Inspector General (IPSIG), to discuss ways to improve the effectiveness and enforcement of a checks and balances process. Mr. Goldstock encouraged utilization of an independent inspector general. The new office would provide more aggressive enforcement by bridging together the traditional disciplines of a prosecutor, auditor and investigator. The inspector general function has two critical components or focuses; an internal focus where it looks at the internal operations of government by department and an external focus where it looks at public dollars as they are used by outside

vendors under contract by local government.

As citizens of Detroit have monitored the work of the Commission, several unionists have raised concerns about the current outsourcing of city contracts. Many have complained that outsourcing public contracts to private companies has resulted in inadequate public information and accountability over public work. They have complained that traditional methods for examining expenditures within the public sector, such as the use of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and government mandated auditing and accounting procedures are suspended when work is privatized.

The independent inspector general, as envisioned by Goldstock, is paid by the contractor who is performing for the government under contract. Goldstock also indicated that by contractually requiring an independent public inspector general, the city would extend its investigative and enforcement powers into the private sector with companies performing government contract work. The independent public inspector general, empowered by contract to audit and inspect all outsourced contract work and report its findings to the city, can enhance government services and operations and leverage city resources. This method would allow the city to accomplish two things: extend its watchful eye into contracts that have been outsourced, and shift the financial burden of audit and performance reviews from the city to the contractor performing government work.

The Commission received the comments from Mr. Goldstock and has included his conceptual approach into the recommendations that the Commission will examine during the revision process.

Volunteer with the Commission and Make a Difference!

The 2009 Charter Commission is housed on the 32nd Floor of the Cadillac Tower Building in downtown Detroit. Office hours of the Commission are 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The Commission established an aggressive agenda to engage citizens and solicit their opinions and input into the rewrite of the Charter.

The agenda includes a three step process: in-depth examination of the current Charter, citizen and stakeholder input, and drafting the revised Charter. To accomplish this work the staff has outlined a set of resource needs. To augment our financial resources, the Charter Commis-

sion is seeking volunteers to work with the Commission. Volunteers can be city employees who can bring a wide range of valuable experiences to the work of the Commission. City employees better than any other group of people have critical knowledge about governmental functions and imaginative solutions to address city functions.

Additionally, stakeholders from the many business and community concerns also can be valuable to the work of the Commission. Expert and professional skills that can help enhance the Commis-

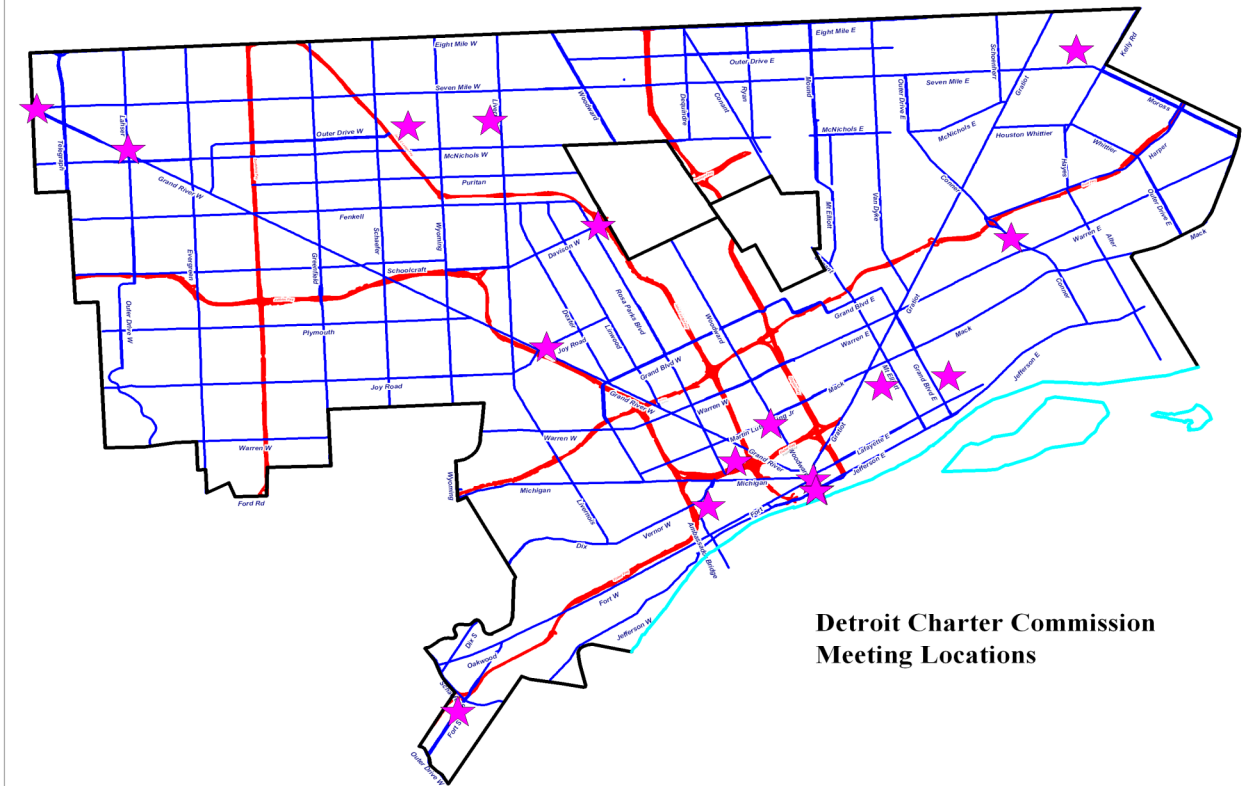
sion's data driven process are unique contributions that can help shape the future of Detroit.

The Commission has hired two contract consultants, Gregory Hicks, Executive Director, and Lamont Satchel, General Counsel. To extend the grasp of contract staff, individuals with legal, media, strategic planning, research and policy analysis skills are encouraged

to volunteer with the Commission. Volunteers can call the Commission at 313-628-2517.



2009 Detroit Charter Revision Commission Meeting Locations



June 16, 2010

Coleman A. Young Municipal Center	Downtown	2 Woodward Avenue	17-Nov-09
Coleman A. Young Municipal Center	Downtown	2 Woodward Avenue	1-Dec-09
Coleman A. Young Municipal Center	Downtown	2 Woodward Avenue	15-Dec-09
WSU Tech-Town	Downtown	440 Burroughs	22-Jan-10
Franklin-Wright Settlement	Eastside	3360 Charlevoix St	12-Jan-10
Northwest Activities Center	Northwest	18100 Meyers	26-Jan-10
Roberto Clemente Recreation Center	Southwest	2631 Bagley	9-Feb-10
Northwest Activities Center	Northwest	18100 Meyers	11-Feb-10
Northwest Activities Center	Northwest	18100 Meyers	16-Feb-10
Samaritan Center	Eastside	5555 Conner	23-Feb-10
Michigan Teamsters Hall	Central	2700 Trumbull	9-Mar-10
Heilmann Community Center	Northeast	19601 Crusade	24-Mar-10
Chapel Hill Baptist Church	Westside	4924 Joy Road	13-Apr-10
Muslim Center of Detroit	Westside	1605 W. Davison	27-Apr-10
Detroit Rescur Mission Ministries	Central	150 Stimson	11-May-10
Motor City Blight Busters	Northwest	17405 Lahser	25-May-10
Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce	Downtown	1 Woodward Avenue	8-Jun-10
Butzel Family Center	Eastside	7707 Kercheval	22-Jun-10
Delta Sigma Theta Detroit Foundation, Inc.	Northwest	24760 W. Seven Mile Road	13-Jul-10
Mayflower Congregational UCC	Northwest	7301 Curtis Avenue	27-Jun-10
Kemeny Recreational Center	Southwest	2260 South Fort Street	10-Aug-10

Additions to Schedule: On July 13th, the Commission voted to add three meetings to Phase I of their data collection process. The added meetings are Tuesday, August 24, 2010/Subject: Public Health & Health Care, Tuesday, September 14, 2010/Subject: Enterprise Departments, i.e., Transportation, Water & Sewerage, Public Lighting, etc., & Tuesday, September 28, 2010/Subject: Public Employees Pension. Locations TBA.

Charter Commission Bylaws

filled by a qualified elector selected by the Commission within 30 days of the vacancy.

City of Detroit, Michigan Charter Revision Commission By-Laws

Table of Contents:

Article I:	Purpose
Article II:	Officers
Article III:	Quorum
Article IV:	Committees
Article V:	Special Meetings
Article VI:	Vacancies
Article VII:	Public Right to Address the Commission
Article VIII:	Miscellaneous
Article IX:	Order of Business
Article X:	Adoption

Article I: Purpose

The City of Detroit Charter Revision Commission ("Commission") shall operate in accordance with the United States and the Michigan Constitutions, Home Rule City Act, Open Meetings Act and all other applicable laws to revise the City of Detroit Charter ("Charter").

Article II: Officers

The Chair shall preside over the sessions of the Commission, decide questions of order subject to appeal to the Commission and may vote on all questions except appeals from his/her decisions.

The Vice Chair in absence or disability of the Chair shall perform duties of the office of Chair.

As required by law, the Detroit City Clerk shall be Clerk of the Commission and be the repository for the Commission's journal and proceedings.

Article III: Quorum

A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum, and the sessions of the Commission shall be public. The vote of a majority of the members present and voting at a meeting, at which a quorum is established, shall constitute the action of the Commission, unless a larger number is required by the procedural rules or other provisions in these bylaws. Any action or

resolution to submit a proposed Charter to the public for voter approval shall require a majority vote of all members serving on the Commission.

Article IV: Committees

The standing committees of the Commission are: (1) Budget & Finance; (2) Personnel; and (3) Rules & Structure. There shall be no executive committee.

The Chairman may appoint all Committees and members deemed necessary to effectuate the business of the Commission. The Chairman may also later add members to any Committee as in his/her discretion is considered appropriate.

A Committee shall meet at the call if it's Chairman or upon written or electronic request to the Chairman by a majority of its members.

The Chairman of the Commission shall be non-voting ex-officio members of all Committees and may participate in the Committee's discussions. Other Commission member may, at the request of the Committee's Chairman, assist the Committee as non-voting ex-officio members.

Article V: Special Meetings

The Chair or any five (5) members of the Commission may call a special meeting to transact any business stated in the corresponding meeting notice. Notice of the special meeting shall state the time, date, place and business to be conducted at the special meeting. The business to be considered at special meetings shall be limited to that stated in the corresponding meeting notice. Notices may be delivered or mailed to each member's designated mailing address at least one business day prior to the special meeting. Alternatively, notice to Commissioners may be issued verbally at a meeting of the Commission held prior to a special meeting.

Article VI: Vacancies

A vacancy in the office of any member of the Commission ("Commissioner") shall be

Article VII: Public Right to Address the Commission

Anyone who desires to make a formal address to the Commission, its committees or subcommittees shall submit in writing the topic of their remarks to the Chair at least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting. This requirement may be waived by affirmative vote of the members present. The Chair may establish the time allotted to any person. The Chair shall inform Commissioners of such limit and it may be altered by vote of a majority of the Commissioners present. This article only applies to formal presentations and not informal public comments.

Article VIII: Miscellaneous

Any matter not specifically addressed in these rules or state statutes shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised or other applicable procedure adopted by the Commission that is not inconsistent with these rules or applicable laws.

Article IX: Order of Business

Robert Rules of Order Newly Revised Addition shall govern the Commission in all cases in which such rules are not inconsistent with the rules of the Commission. The rules of the Commission may be added to, amended or suspended by majority vote of the Commissioners.

The standard agenda for Commission meetings shall include, but not be limited to:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Report(s) of the Chair
- VII. Unfinished business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Public Comment
- X. Adjournment

Article X: Adoption (Majority vote.)

Charter Revision Commission Responds to Clarion Call from Detroit Voters!



**Commission Chair
Freman Hendrix**



**Commission Vice Chair
Jenice Mitchell Ford**

On May 5, 2009, Detroit residents issued a clarion call mandating that the Charter of the City of Detroit ("Charter") be critically reviewed in an effort to empower officials to better meet the needs of citizens. Because the citizens called for a charter revision, it only makes good sense that the charter revision process be citizen focused, citizen driven and citizen friendly. To that end, we welcome and encourage you to become involved at every step of the way as we revise the Charter – Detroit's own constitution.

On November 17, 2009, nine (9) residents raised their hands and took an oath accepting the challenge to make proposed revisions to the Charter. Now, more than six (6) months later, the City of Detroit Charter Revision Commission ("Commission") stands ready to report on its progress and the future steps to take Detroit closer to a revised Charter.

Before embarking on the charter revision journey, the Commission felt it prudent to first educate itself on how best to revise a charter. In December 2009, we held an unprecedented day long orientation, attended by the Commissioners and the general public, business and labor leaders and local precinct delegates, which featured charter revision experts from near and far including the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, Michigan Municipal League, former Detroit Charter Revision Commissioners and administrative staff and local attorneys who specialize in governmental law. After becoming armed with this "how to" knowledge, we adopted a seven (7) step, two (2) year charter revision process which will culminate in November 2011 with a ballot initiative during a regularly scheduled election (the "Process").

In January 2010, the Commission took the first step in the Process and began to hold meetings, every 2nd and 4th Tuesday, to discuss substantive charter issues. At each meeting, we invited the nation's leading authorities and subject matter experts to make presentations and recommendations. So far, we've met in every part of Detroit, from southwest to north end and east to west, in community centers, places of worship, social service agencies and union halls. We will continue to hold these meetings until Fall 2010 at which time we will embark on step 2 of the Process – subcommittee work and additional research.

Not only are we engaging the citizenry, but we've issued letters to all Detroit stakeholders (community groups, labor, business, foundations, mayor, city council, city clerk, etc.) asking for input into the process. We also have aired meetings on public access and plan to continue airing meetings on television. We will continue to involve citizens at every step of the Process and routinely report on our progress.

We hope you will become, or continue to be, a part of shaping Detroit's next Charter.

Freman Hendrix, Chair *Jenice C. Mitchell Ford*, Vice Chair

2009 - Detroit Charter Revision Commission

**2009 Detroit
Charter Revision Commission
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Freman Hendrix, Chairman
Jenice Mitchell Ford, Vice Chair

Members:

Cara J. Blount
Ken Coleman
Reggie Reg Davis,
Ken Harris
Teola P. Hunter
John Johnson
Rose Mary C. Robinson

Staff:

Gregory Hicks, Executive Director
Lamont Satchel, General Counsel

